EXHIBIT C

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STATE OF TEXAS – DENTON COUNTY COURTS

Denton County District Clerk By: Paige Perkins, Deputy

2 **362nd Judicial District Court** 3 4 Mr. Michael Moates Case No.: 21-6417-362 5 Plaintiff 6 **Amended Petition** v. 7 8 Lone Star College System, **Jury Trial Demanded** 9 Dr. Hrisafia Bekiaris, 10 Dr. Jess Kelly, 11 Leslieann Thomas, 12 Dr. Christopher Allen, and 13 14 Alicia Guevara 15 **Defendants** 16 17 18 TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT: 19 20 COMES NOW, Plaintiff, Michael Moates, Pro Se, and files this Amended Petition, 21 complaining against Lone Star College, Dr. Hrisafia Bekiaris, Dr. Jess Kelly, and Leslieann 22 Thomas, Dr. Christopher Allen, and Alicia Guevara (collectively Defendants) and in support 23 thereof would respectfully show the court as follows: 24 I. PARTIES 25

1. Plaintiff Michael Moates is an individual who resides in Denton County, Texas.

1	2. Defendant Lone Star College System (LSC) is an institution of higher education. Lone Star		
2	College System can be served at Nancy Molina, Associate General Counsel, 5000 Research		
3	Forest Drive, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.		
4	4 3. Defendant Dr. Hrisafia Bekiaris is professor in the Biology Department at Lone Star		
6	System and can be served at Nancy Molina, Associate General Counsel, 5000 Research Forest		
7	Drive, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.		
8	4. Defendant Dr. Jess Kelly is the Dean of Instruction at Lone Star College System and can be		
9	served at Nancy Molina, Associate General Counsel, 5000 Research Forest Drive, The		
10	Woodlands, Texas 77381.		
11 12	5. Defendant Leslieann Thomas is a disability services coordinator at Lone Star College System		
13	and can be served at Nancy Molina, Associate General Counsel, 5000 Research Forest Drive,		
14	The Woodlands, Texas 77381.		
15	6. Defendant Dr. Christopher Allen is a Department Chair at Lone Star College System and can		
16	be served at Nancy Molina, Associate General Counsel, 5000 Research Forest Drive, The		
17	Woodlands, Texas 77381.		
18 19	7. Defendant Alicia Guevara is the Executive Director of Disability Services at Lone Star		
20	College System and can be served at Nancy Molina, Associate General Counsel, 5000 Research		
21	Forest Drive, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.		
22	II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE		
23			
24	3. The damages sought in this case exceed the minimal jurisdictional limits of the Denton Coun		
25	Judicial Courts.		
26	4. Venue is proper in Denton County, Texas, because a suit for damages for violation of the		
27	American with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972 shall be		
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1	brough in which the Plaintiff resided at during the time of the cause of action. Venue is proper		
2	because the Plaintiff resided in Denton County at the time of the cause of action.		
3	5. This Court has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 & 1345 and Title II of the		
4	Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), 42 U.S.C. § 12133.		
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6	III. JURY DEMAND		
7	6. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.		
8	IV. FACTUAL SUMMARY		
9	7. On 12 July 2021, the Plaintiff applied via the Apply Texas portal to attend Lone Star College		
10	as a non-degree seeking student to obtain pre-requisite requirements required to attend nursing		
11	school. He was accepted and registered for classes including Biology 2401 with Dr. Hrisafia		
12			
13	Bekiaris.		
14	8. On 15 July 2021, the Plaintiff requested disability accommodations pursuant to the American		
15	with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.		
16	9. On 19 July 2021, Leslieann Thomas scheduled an appointment with the Plaintiff to meet		
17	regarding disability services.		
18 19	10. On 20 July 2021, Leslieann Thomas agreed to provide the Plaintiff with disability		
20	accommodations. These accommodations were as follows: Dictionary Use in Exam/Quizzes,		
21			
22	Extra Time 2.00x, Occasional Short Breaks During Testing, Testing Center Use, Medical		
23	Device/Equipment, and No Spelling Reductions.		
24	11. The Plaintiffs other professor in Nutrition immediately put the accommodations into place		
25	however, the other professor Dr. Hrisafia Bekiaris began creating barriers to the Plaintiffs		
26	education and did not put the disability accommodations in place.		

12. At the onset of the class Dr. Bekiaris posted a video on the syllabus. She stated in her video "a webcam is required for this course" despite no in person class meetings or video assignment. The only purpose of the camera is so the professor can record the students. She states this is a "online course." She states that she has given student numerous 0's and F's. She says if you have a problem within the course to go to Dr. Christopher Allen... this is important to note because I did go to Dr. Allen and never not once heard from him. She states that when your complete exams and quizzes that you must allow her to watch you through your webcam and audio. She says the software they use to record you uses artificial intelligence to track you and will flag you for cheating if it thinks your cheating. Nowhere does LSC disclose this when you apply, and frankly the thought that if I look away from my screen during a 2-hour exam will cause me to be flagged for cheating is terrifying and only add to my testing anxiety. She says the test will flag you for cheating if it sees shadows... so my moving lights, my pets, etc would likely cause me to be flagged for cheating. She admits that they are using software with facial recognition without consent. If you don't use the facial recognition, you are "suspect" she says. Again, LSC takes your money for the course but does not tell you in advance then blackmails you by saying do it or we will fail you. She says you must keep your eyes on the screen or you will be flagged for cheating. Again, this is unreasonable for a normal person. If you look away for a second you could be flagged for cheating... what if someone needs to use the restroom? Oh she says you can't get up to go to the bathroom during a 3:20 minute exam. She requires you to not only let her watch you but now you have to also show her inside your home.

13. On 21 July 2021, Leslieann Thomas and Dr. Hrisafia Bekiaris agreed that the Plaintiff could do his quizzes/exams at the local library. However, Dr. Bekiaris refused to remove the lockdown

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idea.

18. On 23 July 2021, after the exams were already due and the professor had caused the Plaintiff 1 2 a significant amount of stress, she emailed him to let him know "extended your exam until 3 Wednesday at midnight." Keep in mind this was still only one week where every other student 4 got two weeks. Again, discrimination based on disability. 5 19. On 23 July 2021, Dr. Bekiaris told the Plaintiff via email "Everything has been extended 6 until Wednesday for you." The Plaintiff understood that everything had been extended. 7 8 20. On 23 July 2021, the Plaintiff brought up that he could not complete the lab quizzes and 9 assignments because they were timing out when he took "Occasional Short Breaks" as promised 10 in his accommodations. The professor responded with she told the Plaintiff he was out of luck 11 because they used a third-party software and "That is nothing I can change or have control over." 12 13 21. On 24 July 2021, Dr. Bekiaris informed the Plaintiff that he would have to seek her 14 permission to take his "lab practical" and "test" "exams" even though every other student did not 15 have to do that. This was again discrimination and an extra requirement because he had a 16 disability. 17 22. On 25 July 2021, Dr. Bekiaris stated in an email "Hi Michael. Multiple attempts aren't 18 additive. Therefore, if you start attempt 1, take a break and the system times you out for 19 20 inactivity; when you start attempt 2 none of that initial work is saved. If you again, take a break 21 from attempt 2 and are timed out again, the cycle continues. So regardless of how many attempts 22 I give you, taking an extended break will just have you start back at square 1. Also, that work has 23 been posted on Connect since day 1 of the semester. You have had 9 days of opportunity to start 24 slowly chipping away at it. The vast majority of it has not been completed. As stated in the 25 26 syllabus, late work is not accepted." A couple of issues... 1) this is a direct contradiction to the 27 accommodations the college promised him 2) it is discrimination based on the ADA and Section

V. CAUSES OF ACTION 1 2 A. Violation of Biometric Data – (Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 503.001) 3 1. At no time has Lone Star College provide informed consent required for the collection of 4 biometric identifiers as required by law. 5 2. Lone Star College uses a system that has "facial recognition," "tracks" you, and determines 6 whether you are cheating, there is a shadow, you use the restroom. 7 8 B. Violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation 9 Act of 1973 10 1. The Plaintiff notified the college of his disability. The college accepted his disability and put 11 in writing that he had accommodations. These include ADHD, Sleep Apnea, Anxiety, Insomnia, 12 13 Depression, Asthma, and Dysgraphia. 14 2. The college did not apply the accommodations that were promised in writing. 15 3. After notification the college still did not put the accommodations into place. 16 4. The central question in this case concerns whether LSC violated the ADA and Chapter 121 by 17 failing to provide proper auxiliary aids and services, make reasonable accommodations, and 18 maintaining a policy and practice of failing to make its course materials accessible. 19 20 5. On July 12, 1990, Congress enacted the Americans with Disabilities Act "to 21 provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against 22 individuals with disabilities." 42 U.S.C. § 12101(b)(1). 23 6. Title III of the ADA states that "[n]o individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of 24 disability in the full and equal enjoyment of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or 25 26 accommodations of any public place of accommodation by any person who owns, leases (or 27 leases to), or operates a place of public accommodation." 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a). 28

stored in a 3rd party computer system without his consent.

4. Defendants denied the Plaintiff due process and created procedures in which the Plaintiff had no way to appeal. Since the Dean went to the Vice President and the Executive Director failed to get involved that created two issues. First, the Vice President is also the Chief Student Services Officer who is tasked with handling civil rights complaints¹. Second, since the Executive Director for Disability Services failed to respond there was no informal complaint process. Therefor the due process that is supposed to be afforded by Section VI.D.11 and VI.D.12² did not take place and there for the Plaintiff was deprived of liberty without due process.

E. Violation of the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act - 20 U.S. Code § 1232g

- 1. Defendants willfully violated FERPA by releasing protected information to Desire2Learn and Bright Space without consent. This includes grades, copyrighted content, user identifiers, contact information³. The company admits "Personal Information collected through Brightspace or other D2L offerings and D2L Web sites may be stored and processed by us, our affiliates or our service providers in Canada, the United States, Ireland, Australia, Singapore or other countries, including countries other than your country of residence"
- 2. Defendants willfully violated FERPA by releasing protected information to Respondus without consent. This includes user content, contact info, user identifiers, facial recognition data,

²⁷ https://www.lonestar.edu/departments/generalcounsel/Section_VI.D.12_Student_Civil_Rights_Complaints Procedures.pdf

² https://www.lonestar.edu/policy.htm

³ https://www.d2l.com/legal/privacy/

the date and time the user starts and completes an exam session; the time that each exam

question is answered; how much time is spent on each exam question; if/when an answer to an exam question is changed; the quality of the user's internet connection during the exam session (including the time and duration of any internet disconnections); mouse, keyboard and screen activity; the quality of the video recording (in terms of lighting, contrast, movement); and the quality of the audio recording, tracks the applications and processes that are running on the computing device during an exam session, and identification card data. This data is "transmitted to the Respondus Monitor server." "The default data retention period for Respondus Monitor is five years.⁴"

- 3. Defendants willfully violated FERPA by releasing protected information to Amazon Web Services via Respondus. Amazon Web Services provides hosting for Respondus on their servers and therefore has access to this data. "Respondus uses AWS servers."
- 4. Defendants willfully violated FERPA by engaging in economic duress requiring the Plaintiff to complete assignments on McGraw Hill Connect. If the Plaintiff did not use this software, he would fail. Essentially blackmail. They required the release of grades, student identifiers, student contact information, etc.

F. Violation of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

1. Defendants advertised the Biology Human Anatomy and Physiology I class as being "Online Your Time- 100% Online" and "Set your own pace⁵" but the class was not entirely online. They required the Plaintiff to go to the library, testing centers, etc. Also, it was not on "your time" as

⁴ https://web.respondus.com/privacy/privacy-additional-monitor/

⁵ https://www.lonestar.edu/lsc-online/

they required the Plaintiff to schedule assessments with the both the testing center and the professor.

- 2. Defendants engaged in professional negligence in the following instances:
 - a. All Defendants had a duty to make sure that accommodations were provided, that they did not violate the constitution or the biometric laws, etc. This was their duty as a college. They have a disability services department designed exclusively for this⁶. They also have a general counsel's office staff to advise them on the law. The emotional stress, delay of classes, damage to the Plaintiffs records, attempted to force the Plaintiff to consent to contracts under duress, etc.
 - b. Defendant Alicia Guevara as the Executive Director of Disability Services⁷ had a duty to engage in the process of "resolv[ing] the dispute informally.8" She neglected that duty by not engaging in the process at any time despite numerous complaints emailed to her and requests for assistance.
 - c. Defendant Christopher Allen as the Department Chair and as the direct supervisor of the professor, had a duty to intervene in conflict resolution when a complaint was lodged against the professor. To date, the Defendant has not engaged in the process at any time despite numerous complaints emailed to him and requests for assistance.

 $^{^6}https://www.lonestar.edu/departments/general counsel/Section \% 20 VI.D. 11\% 20 Students\% 20 with\% 20 Disability\% 20 Rights\% 20-\% 20 Policy.pdf$

⁷ https://www.lonestar.edu/Governance-Accountability-Compliance.htm

⁸ https://www.lonestar.edu/departments/generalcounsel/Section%20VI.D.11-

Students % 20 with % 20 Disability % 20 Rights % 20 Procedures % 208.31.20% 20-% 20 as % 20 posted.pdf

- d. Defendant Hrisafia Bekiaris as the professor had a duty to provide accommodations, follow the law, and protect her student's privacy. She did not do that. In fact, she did the opposite by expecting more of the Plaintiff then what other students were required to do.
- e. Defendant Lone Star College had a duty to provide accommodations, follow the law, and protect student's privacy. The school failed to do that. In fact, the college did the opposite by expecting more of the Plaintiff then what other students were required to do.
- 3. All of these breaches of duty contributed to the various injuries of the Plaintiff.

G. Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress

- 1. The Defendants acted together and conspired to act intentionally and recklessly. This is proven through the Dean's final email which stated, "We have received your request..." and "After an extensive review it has been determined that we have fully met the standard of reasonable accommodation and as a result your request has been denied." Clearly intentional.
- 2. The Defendants conduct was extreme and outrageous because they not only denied accommodations, but they also conspired as a group to add additional requirements to the Plaintiff because of his disability. This included less time to take exams then the other students and the requirement of scheduling said exams with both the professor and testing center which no other student was required to do.
- 3. The conduct caused the Plaintiff severe emotional distress. Outside of the general stress, the Plaintiff felt humiliated, severe anxiety, overwhelmed by the number of people involved, etc.

 These caused the Plaintiff to have severe panic attacks in the weeks that the situation went on.

1	VI. DAMAGES
2	29. All previous allegations are incorporated herein by reference.
3	30. Mr. Moates is entitled to nominal damages, general damages, and actual damages for the
4	Defendants' libel, including compensation for injury to his reputation.
5	31. Mr. Moates is entitled to exemplary damages pursuant to Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil
7	Practices and Remedies Code because the Defendant acted with malice. The evidence is shown
8	in the degrading comments, public humiliation, and open statements showing the intend to harm
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11	VII. DEMAND TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE
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13	32. Plaintiff demands that all Defendants preserve all evidence that is or may be relevant to the
14	claims and defenses of the allegations made in this complaint including all electronic data of an
15	kind.
16	VIII. REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE
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18	33. Plaintiff requests that defendant disclose the information and material described in Texas
19	Rule of Civil Procedure 194.2 within the time required by the rule.
20	IX. DISCOVERY
21	34. Discovery Level 2 of Texas Rules of Civil Procedure applies to this Petition.
22	IX. PRAYER
23	WHEREFORE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff Michael Moates asks the court to issue a
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25	citation for each Defendant to appear and answer, and that Plaintiff be awarded a judgement
26	against Defendants for the following:
27	a) Nominal damages;
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1		b) General damages;
2		c) Actual damages;
3		d) Special damages;
4		e) Exemplary damages;
5		f) Pre and post judgement interest;
7		g) declaratory relief
8	and	
9		a) Declare that LSC has violated the ADA and Chapter 121;
10		b) Permanently enjoin LSC from violating the ADA and Chapter 121;
11 12		c) Issue an injunction requiring LSC to remove the BIOL 2401 course completely from
13		the Plaintiff record and issue him a complete refund for the course.
14		d) Issue any further relief as the court may deem appropriate
15		Respectfully Submitted
16		/s/ Michael S. Moates
17 18		Michael Moates, Pro So
19		Michaelsmoates@gmail.com
20		817-999-753
21		2700 Colorado Boulevard #1526, Denton, TX 76210
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